

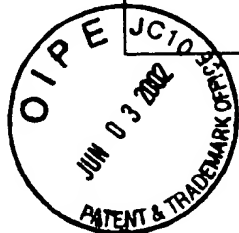
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 20, 2002.

*Tami M. Procopio*  
Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In the application of:

Wilhelmus Theodorus Antonius Maria  
DE LAAT, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,474

Filing Date: 17 October 2001

For: FERMENTATIVE PRODUCTION OF  
VALUABLE COMPOUNDS ON AN  
INDUSTRIAL SCALE USING  
CHEMICALLY DEFINED MEDIA

Examiner: Randall O. Winston

Group Art Unit: 1651

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein mailed 18 December 2001, time for response to which was set to expire 18 March 2002. A petition for an extension of time of two (2) months until 18 May 2002 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The considered claims, claims 1-8, 15-16, 19-20 and 36-37 were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.